



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
"Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs"

Russ Guiney, Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation Announces Parks After Dark Program *Extended Summer Hours and Programming at Three L.A. County Parks***

Los Angeles County (July 7, 2010) ---The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation begins its Parks After Dark (PAD) program at three Los Angeles County parks today. PAD will offer surrounding communities and youth extended park hours and activities and will be implemented at three County parks: Ted Watkins Park and Franklin Roosevelt Park in the Florence Firestone area; and Pamela Park in unincorporated Duarte.

Extended park hours will take place Wednesdays to Saturdays through September 4, 2010. Additional programming and activities for all community residents will include sports activities, cultural and educational activities, musical concerts in the parks, movies in the parks, employment opportunities for local youth and resource fairs.

"Parks contribute greatly to the quality of life in our communities and enrich the lives of our children and families through recreation and physical fitness," said Molina. With the new "after dark" hours, the County's Department of Parks and Recreation can now offer an extended schedule of "fun-filled" recreational, sports and cultural programming."

PAD will provide youth with productive activities to decrease the likelihood of participation in at-risk behavior, including gang activity and is a component of the County's Gang Initiative intended to reduce gangs and gang violence. The goal of PAD is to strengthen individuals in communities and influence them to see their communities and neighbors in a better light.

PAD is made possible through a partnership among the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, LA 84 Foundation, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles County Probation Department, Los Angeles County Public Library, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County Department of Community and Senior Services, Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission, Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office and Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

For a complete listing of hours and activities that will be available at each location, visit the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation website at: <http://parks.lacounty.gov>

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